

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07

NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01

SAM-01 OMB-01 INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 H-02 AGR-05

OIC-02 IO-11 /100 W

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O R 211943Z JAN 76

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 348

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1574

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EEC, OECD

SUBJECT: CIEC: EC COUNCIL DECISIONS ON EC PROCEDURES

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 490, (B) EC BRUSSELS 418, (C) STATE 839,
(D) EC BRUSSELS 582

1. SUMMARY: EC COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS AT ITS JAN. 20
MEETING AGREED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE NINE SHOULD
PLAY THE LEADING EC COORDINATING ROLE ON CIEC MATTERS. THE
DAY-TO-DAY WORK IS TO BE FIRMLY IN THE HANDS OF THE EC
COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES IN BRUSSELS. THE
OECD SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR COORDINATING COMMON POSITIONS BUT
AS A FORUM FOR EXCHANGING VIEWS. END SUMMARY.

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2. KAY TO THE JANUARY 20 DECISION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL ON THE MODALITIES OF EC COOPERATION IN THE CIEC IS THE GUIDING ROLE TO BE PLAYED BY THE EC COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS AND THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (COREPER). THE CIEC WILL BE A STANDING ITEM ON THE FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL AGENDA. ACCORDING TO LUXEMBOURG PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE DONDELINGER, WHO WAS THE PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT OF THE SCHEME ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL, SPECIALIZED EC COUNCILS, E.G. FINANCE AND AGRICULTURE, WILL CONSIDER CIEC ISSUES BUT COORDINATION AND FINAL DECISIONS WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL.

3. AT THE NEXT LEVEL DOWN, THE LEAD ROLE WILL BE PLAYED BY THE COREPER IN BRUSSELS. IT WILL BE ASSISTED BY FOUR SECTORIAL WORKING GROUPS CORRESPONDING TO THE FOUR CIEC COMMISSIONS AND BY A HIGH-LEVEL WORKING GROUP. THE FOUR SECTORIAL WORKING GROUPS WILL BE CHAIRED BY THE HEADS OF THE COMMUNITY'S DELEGATIONS TO THE FOUR CIEC COMMISSIONS (REFTEL D). THE HIGH-LEVEL WORKING GROUP IS CHAIRED BY REICHLING FROM THE LUXEMBOURG FOREIGN MINISTRY AND CASPARI FROM THE EC COMMISSION.

4. THE TWO COMMUNITY CO-CHAIRMAN ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE COMMISSIONS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE PREPARATION OF A COMMON COMMUNITY POSITION TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE.

5. THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT AT COORDINATING MEETINGS OF THE EIGHT INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES THE EC SPOKESMEN WILL BE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PRESIDENCY AND THE COMMISSION (DONDELINGER TOLD US THAT THE PRESIDENCY REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE REICHLING AND CASPARI WILL REPRESENT THE COMMISSION). THEY WILL BE ASSISTED BY THE HEADS OF THE COMMUNITY DELEGATION IN THE FOUR CIEC COMMISSIONS. ACCORDING TO DONDELINGER, A MEMBER OF THE EC COUNCIL SECRETARIAT WILL ALSO BE PRESENT AT MEETINGS OF THE EIGHT IN PARIS AND IT WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BE HIS FUNCTION TO REPORT THE RESULTS OF THESE MEETINGS TO THE COREPER.

6. DONDELINGER TELLS US THAT HE SOUGHT AGREEMENT THAT NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES COULD ONLY ATTEND THESE MEETINGS AT THE INVITATION OF THE PRESIDENCY AND OTHERWISE WOULD WAIT IN THE WINGS. THIS EFFORT WAS DEFEATED AND THE LANGUAGE IN THE FINAL DOCUMENT SAYS

THAT "IN CASE OF NEED A COMMUNITY DELEGATION WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSURE THE NECESSARY COORDINATION". A MEMBER OF THE UK PERMANENT DELEGATION TELLS US HIS GOVERNMENT INTERPRETS THIS TO MEAN THAT NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES CAN ATTEND COORDINATION MEETINGS OF THE EIGHT AT THEIR DISCRETION.

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7. THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT IF COORDINATION AMONG THE NINE IN PARIS RESULTS IN DIFFERENCES BEYOND THE SCOPE OF COUNCIL DECISIONS, THE QUESTIONS WILL BE REFERRED TO INSTITUTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY (COREPER OR THE COUNCIL) FOR RESOLUTION.

8. THE MINISTERS FURTHER AGREED THAT IN THE FRAMEWORK OF OECD DIALOGUE-RELATED WORK, THE COMMUNITY

POSITION WILL BE PRESENTED BY THE COMMUNITY SPOKESMEN (PRESIDENCY AND THE COMMISSION). THE POSITIONS THEY ELABORATE WILL HAVE BEEN DEFINED EITHER IN BRUSSELS OR IN COORDINATING MEETINGS IN PARIS. THE MINISTERS CONFIRMED THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE WORK IN THE OECD IS NOT AIMED AT FINDING COORDINATED POSITIONS BUT RATHER TO FACILITATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TATE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. CIEC MEMBERS WILL PARTICIPATED IN THEIR OWN RIGHT, AND NOT AS HOLDING A MANDATED FROM THE OECD.

9. THE COUNCIL ALSO DECIDED THE OECD ITSELF SHOULD DEFINE THE ROLE THAT IT WILL PLAY IN THE CAPACITY OF OBSERVER.

10. THE MINISTERS ALSO DETERMINED THAT THE PRESIDENCY WILL COORDINATE BETWEEN THE CIEC AND UNCTAD. IT WILL ASSIGN THE SAME PEOPLE TO BOTH BODIES AND SUGGESTS THAT THE MEMBER STATES DO LIKEWISE.

11. ON JANUARY 17 DONDELINGER BRIEFED MISSION OFFICIALS ON THE PURPOSE OF THE ABOVE PROCEDURES AND THE REASON FOR SPELLING THEM OUT PRECISELY. HE SAID THIS WAS A NEW TYPE OF NEGOTIATION FOR THE COMMUNITY WHICH DID NOT FALL INTO THE PATTERN OF TARIFF OR ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS FOR WHICH THE COMMUNITY BY NOW HAD ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES. TO ENSURE THE COMMUNITY'S SMOOTH FUNCTIONING IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT PRECISE INTERNAL RULES OF PROCEDURE BE LAID DOWN PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE TALKS. HE FEARED THAT IF THE COMMUNITY WAITED FOR AD HOC PROCEDURES TO DEVELOP IT WOULD FIND THAT IT WAS UNABLE TO COORDINATE AN OVERALL POSITION. SUCH COORDINATION WAS ESSENTIAL IN THE CIEC CONTEXT SINCE THE WORK OF THE FOUR COMMISSIONS WILL OVERLAP.

12. DONDELINGER EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE TO A SUCCESSFUL DIALOGUE THAT THE EC SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE WHICH HE BELIEVES IS AS IMPORTANT TO THE US AS IT IS TO THE EC. HE BELIEVES THAT THE PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNCIL WILL FACILITATE THIS GOAL. HE RECOGNIZES THAT THE OECD WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN PREPARATION FOR THE DIALOGUE BUT HE BELIEVES IT SHOULD BE LIMITED TO COMPARING NOTES AND BRIEFING AND HEARING THE VIEWS OF THE NON-CIEC OECD MEMBERS. IN HIS VIEW, ATTEMPTING TO COORDINATE POSITIONS IN THAT BODY WOULD BE UNNECESSARILY CUMBERSOME. GREENWALD

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